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Docket-222

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

24 MAR 1993

POLICY & PLANNING
BRANDENBURG 100200 ORIGINAL

IN REPLY REFER TO:

7330-7/1700A3

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APR 13 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Leahy:

This is in reply to your letter of March 2, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the

Congressional

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM
03/05/93

LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9301046	03/05/93	03/02/93	03/25/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Patrick Leahy	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/LM 3-9-93			

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
03/05/93	3/9/93		

REMARKS:

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PRB
92-235
1046
United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6275

March 2, 1993

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Chairman
1919 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Quello,

I have enclosed for your information a sampling of letters I have received from my constituents about the proposed rule changes involving the 72-76MHz frequency range. If you have any further information about the proposed rule changes, I would appreciate your passing it along to me.

I appreciate your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,



PATRICK J. LEAHY
United States Senator

PJL/jud

Enclosures

102999-1
[Date] 1/25/93
JWD
FCC

Dear Senator Leahy:

I am a hobby retailer who sells many radios, radio-controlled models and related products in my store. In addition, I sell train products, plastic model kits and other related hobby products.

It has recently come to my attention that the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is considering an action that has the potential to destroy my business and that of thousands of other retailers nationwide like me. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the new rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for R/C model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio-control frequencies are in the 72-76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

The Notice of Proposed Rule Making (NPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces Part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows for safe use of R/C aircraft and surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiasts. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eliminating safe use of at least 31 of the 50 channels on the 72 MHz band (for R/C aircraft) and 10 of the 30 frequencies on the 75 MHz band (for R/C cars and boats) now used by hobbyists. In fact, more channels will likely be affected.

When we operate our R/C models, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operators and bystanders and the protection of property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful

JUD
FCC

75995/16

Center Road RR 1
Montpelier, VT 05602
1 February, 1993

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Leahy,

As a retiree whose main hobby is building radio controlled model airplanes, I am greatly concerned about rule changes proposed by the Federal Communications Commission, PR Docket 92-235, which will seriously effect the radio channels currently assigned to our hobby, making many of our radios unusable and causing interference with others. Radio interference not only can cause destruction of our models, but can be a serious hazard to people and property, some models being as heavy as twenty or thirty pounds travelling at high speeds.

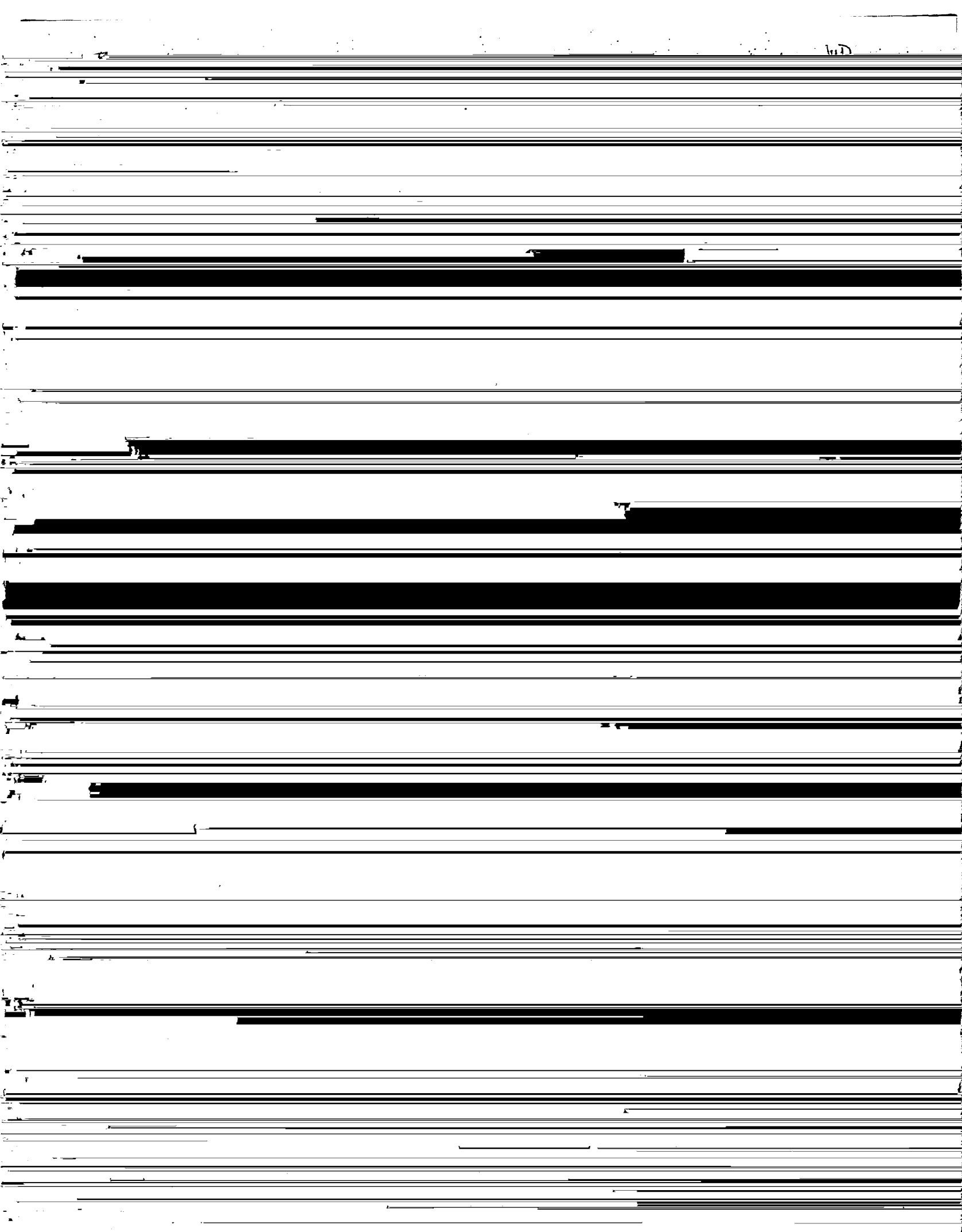
Please help me to continue the safe enjoyment of my hobby by opposing these changes in our assigned radio bands.

I am a member of Vermont Modelers who have a flying field in Berlin, not far from Knapp State Airport, and another in Orange, and cordially invite you to stop by and find out what radio controlled model flying is all about. Things are very quite right now, as you can well imagine, (my personal rule of thumb is to stay at home until the temperature reaches at least forty degrees) but on the first mild snow free Sunday morning we will be out in force at the Berlin field.

Sincerely,



Samuel Starr



JUD
FEC

103181/1

Wendell S. Johnson
4 Woodcrest Drive
South Burlington, VT
05403

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
United States Senate
Washington, D.C.
20510

January 23, 1993

Re: PR Docket 92-235

Dear Sir,

I have recently been made aware that the referenced Notice of Proposed Rule Making will create a severe safety exposure/legal liability and financial burden on myself and thousands of other Radio Control Airplane enthusiasts across this country!

This referenced Rule will allow Mobile Radio services to operate with thousands of times greater power than we are allowed anywhere and anytime they choose. As we are currently occasional at the mercy of radios which bring our aircraft, some weighing 30 pounds and traveling at over 100 mph to the ground in an uncontrollable crash, it terrifies me as a safety engineer and avid R/C pilot to think of it being legal and widespread!

Please keep in mind, Radio Controlled Modelers made Desert Storm a whole lot safer for our troops involved. It was the development through our sport that made radio controlled drones which allowed visual recon of the enemy positions available and functional. Each was responsible for saving hundreds of lives. Let's not allow that record to turn to one where R/C Aircraft become instruments of injury and possible death to participants and spectators alike.

I would also like you to be aware that R/C Airplanes are one of the fastest growing activities amongst young people in Vermont as well as across the country. Anything that will suddenly make this a sport with prohibitive cost considerations ~~will certainly be a great loss to the community~~